

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House  
(317) 232-9855

**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6781**

**BILL NUMBER: SB 256**

**DATE PREPARED:** Jan 26, 2001

**BILL AMENDED:** Jan 25, 2000

**SUBJECT:** Language Assistance Program Grants.

**FISCAL ANALYST:** David Hoppmann

**PHONE NUMBER:** 232-9559

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**  **GENERAL**  
 **DEDICATED**  
 **FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State & Local

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill provides a \$750 per pupil grant to school corporations for a language assistance program.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2001.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** (Revised) Under current law, Indiana's 294 school corporations receive State funding from various sources including, but not limited to, the following: 1) tuition support for basic programs; 2) growing enrollment adjustment and at-risk grants; and 3) honors diploma awards. In addition, this bill would allow school corporations to receive a \$750 per limited English proficiency (LEP) pupil grant to be used for a language assistance program.

For the 1999-2000 school year, 30,851 pupils were reported to the Department of Education (the Department) as having a primary language other than English. Of these pupils, 13,079 were reported as LEP (determined by a standard proficiency examination given at the local school level). The number of LEP students is projected to total 15,035 for the 2000-2001 school year, 17,283 for the 2001-2002 school year, and 19,868 for the 2002-2003 school year.

The Department currently awards grants to fund academic and social proficiency programs in English by school corporations based on confirmed LEP counts from the previous school year. The \$750 language assistance program grants, described in this bill, would be distributed in the same fashion.

Based on projected LEP counts from the 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 school years, \$11.3 M and \$13.0 M would be needed to fund the provisions of this bill for the 2002-2003 biennium. (This bill would take effect on July 1, 2001.)

This bill does not make an appropriation. The bill would also require that the grants be used for the

development of academic and social proficiency in English.

Since the Department already has a mechanism established to award language assistance grants, the provisions of this bill would not result in additional administrative time or cost for the Department.

Current Language Assistance Program: Public Law 273-1999 appropriated \$700,000 annually for FY 2000 and FY 2001 to fund academic and social proficiency programs in English by school corporations. To date, \$686,700 has been distributed to approximately 200 school corporations based on standard proficiency examinations approved by the Department.

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:** See Explanation of State Expenditures.

**State Agencies Affected:** Department of Education.

**Local Agencies Affected:** School Corporations.

**Information Sources:** Darlene Slaby, Department of Education, (317) 232-0555.